

03060102-060

(Tugaloo River)

General Description

Watershed 03060102-060 is located in Oconee County and consists primarily of the ***Tugaloo River*** and its tributaries from its origin to the Chauga River. The watershed occupies 26,992 acres of the Blue Ridge region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Hayesville-Saluda-Pacolet series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.22, and the slope of the terrain averages 27.7%, with a range of 10-80%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 91.7% forested land, 0.1% forested wetland, 0.2% nonforested wetland, 3.4% agricultural land, 0.1% urban land, 1.2% barren land, and 3.3% water.

The Tugaloo River is formed by the confluence of the Tallulah River in Georgia and the Chattooga River. Streams flowing into the river from the Georgia side are connoted with an asterisk. Downstream of the confluence, the Tugaloo River accepts drainage from Battle Creek (Daniel Branch) and Moccasin Creek* before flowing through Lake Yonah. Downstream of Yonah Dam, the Tugaloo River accepts drainage from Panther Creek*, Brasstown Creek (Devil Hole Branch, Wallace Branch, Big Branch, Double Branch, Little Brasstown Creek, Joe Branch, Porter Branch, Boatwright Creek, Mill Branch), Rothwell Creek*, Cherry Cove Branch, and Rocky Branch*. The Tugaloo River begins to impound as an arm of Lake Hartwell and accepts drainage from Prather Creek*, Barton Creek (Drummond Creek), Longnose Creek (East Longnose Creek), Gryer Branch, Ramsey Pond, and Ward Creek*. There are a total of 56.2 stream miles and 992.2 acres of lake waters within the South Carolina portion of the watershed, all classified FW except for Battle Creek and Brasstown Creek, which are classified TPGT. The upper portion of the watershed resides in the Sumter National Forest.

Surface Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
SV-358	W	FW	LAKE YONAH, ½ WAY BETW. CENTER OF SPILLWAY AND OPPOSITE SHORE
SV-673	BIO	FW	BRASSTOWN CREEK AT S-37-48
SV-200	S	FW	TUGALOO RIVER ARM OF LAKE HARTWELL AT US 123

Tugaloo River Arm (SV-200) - Aquatic life uses are fully supported. There is a significant increasing trend in pH. A significant decreasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand suggests improving conditions for this parameter. Recreational uses are fully supported.

Lake Yonah (SV-358) – Aquatic life uses are not supported due to total phosphorus excursions. Recreational uses are fully supported.

Brasstown Creek (SV-673) - Aquatic life uses are fully supported based on macroinvertebrate community data.

A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes Lake Yonah within this watershed (see advisory p. 37).

Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed. A substantial portion of the watershed resides within the Sumter National Forest and the steep slopes of this region would limit establishment of infrastructure and any serious growth.